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1. Informant states that Syrian Army units outside of Damascus, especially those units in Homs and Aleppo (presumably the Fourth Liwa units under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Yazigi (fnu) and those of the Second Liwa under the command of Lieutenant Colonel 'Umar Sharkas) are believed to be on the verge of revolt. Agents of the Syrian Deuxième Bureau have been sent to the areas of Homs and Aleppo with a mission to uncover the efforts of Iraqi agents or of pro-Union politicians who may be attempting to influence leading Syrian Army officers.
2. Regular troops under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Amin Abu Assaf are controlling traffic between Damascus and the northern cities of Syria.
3. Informant believes that, among the officers who took part in the coup on 19 December 1949, there are "traitors" who are plotting counter-action against the leaders of that coup, mainly against Lieutenant Colonel Adib Shishakli. These "traitors" are acting in the belief that they would be assured of the gratitude of Syrian politicians who deplore Shishakli's action.**
4. According to the brother of Lieutenant Colonel Antun Bustani, "certain units," not only in northern Syria but also in Qunaytra, have refused to recognize Shishakli's move and the Syrian Army is preparing for serious trouble. On 23 December 1949, Colonel Anwar Bannud sent officers to northern Syria and Qunaytra in an attempt to bring dissident units into line by "friendly persuasion," although Syrian Army headquarters is not optimistic.
5. Another source confirms a split in the Syrian Army but states that the situation is "not yet dangerous."

25X1A ** [REDACTED] Comment. Although the fears of the Syrian Deuxieme Bureau are probably based on weak evidence, the above indicates the state of unrest existing in the Syrian Army.

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